

The Butterfly Tower ©

By Sophie Tatlow

Genre: Popular fiction with a blend of literary fiction and a dash of crime.

Influences: *The Orchid Thief* by Susan Orlean; *Perfume* by Patrick Suskind; *Eucalyptus* by Murray Bail; the film *Adaptation*; directed by Spike Jonz (film adaptation of *The Orchid Thief*); *Nabokov's Butterflies* by Vladimir Nabokov.

Following a chance encounter on a plane with a butterfly man, property developer and obsessive lepidopterist Grace Fox enters into an unusual relationship with environmentalist, Henry Stern. He is unlike anyone Grace has ever met and for the first time in her life she is able to share her butterfly obsession with a fellow collector. But like many first impressions, Henry may not be what he seems to be. For the following two weeks, Grace lives under Henry's charismatic spell, eventually succumbing to his charms and inviting him to her sub-tropical Queensland oasis. What transpires between the two is the combination of a rare hallucinogenic moth and the subsequent discovery of the world's most unusual insect, the Opportunity Butterfly, a sighting that threatens to destroy Grace's building ambitions and turn her life upside-down.

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORSHIP/ORIGINALITY

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

Signature of Candidate

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'O' followed by a series of connected loops and a final horizontal stroke.